

SUBMISSION FOR RESIDENTS OF PEACE RIVER
FLOODED IN JUNE, 1972
TO THE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL
OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

ALBERTA LEGISLATURE LIBRARY



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On Wednesday, June 14, 1972 the Peace River overflowed its banks within the Town of Peace River, and flooded the West Peace residential district. About forty homes in the area were flooded in depths up to seven feet.

Property damage to the houses of residents has been estimated by assessors of the Department of Municipal Affairs and will be available to you by August 23, 1972. Three homes were damaged beyond repair. Damages to personal property are less exact, but appear by our estimates to exceed one hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

Many of the flood victims were, and continue to be, temporarily housed in trailers brought from Grande Prairie by the Emergency Measures Organization. Unfortunately, the residents must bear the cost of renting these at one hundred to one hundred and twenty-five dollars per month while, in many cases, continuing to pay monthly payments on their own homes. The E.M.O. which has done its best in its limited sphere, simply does not have funds to pay trailer rentals, and residents are even expected to bear the costs of returning the trailers to Grande Prairie. This they can ill afford to do at a time when monies are required for furniture, clothing and repairs to homes.

The immediate cause of the flood was excessive rainfall in the basins of the Smoky and Wapiti Rivers, which crested simultaneously in the Smoky and Peace Rivers. The level of water was only two feet higher than in 1965 when the River did not cross the road along the West Peace River waterfront. This year the water poured across the road filling the lower area farther inland. The height of the River exceeded any level since 1935 and may have been the highest since 1914.

On the basis of current records of the Inland Waters Branch of the Department of Energy, Mines, and Resources at Peace River, the volume of the Peace River at the Town when flooding occurred was no greater than the volume of water flowing in 1965 when no flooding occurred. We submit that, until a full investigation

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proves otherwise, the bed of the Peace River has risen as a result of increased deposits of alluvial material, and that this is a direct result of decreased flow of the River since the operation of the W.A.C. Bennett Dam in 1967.

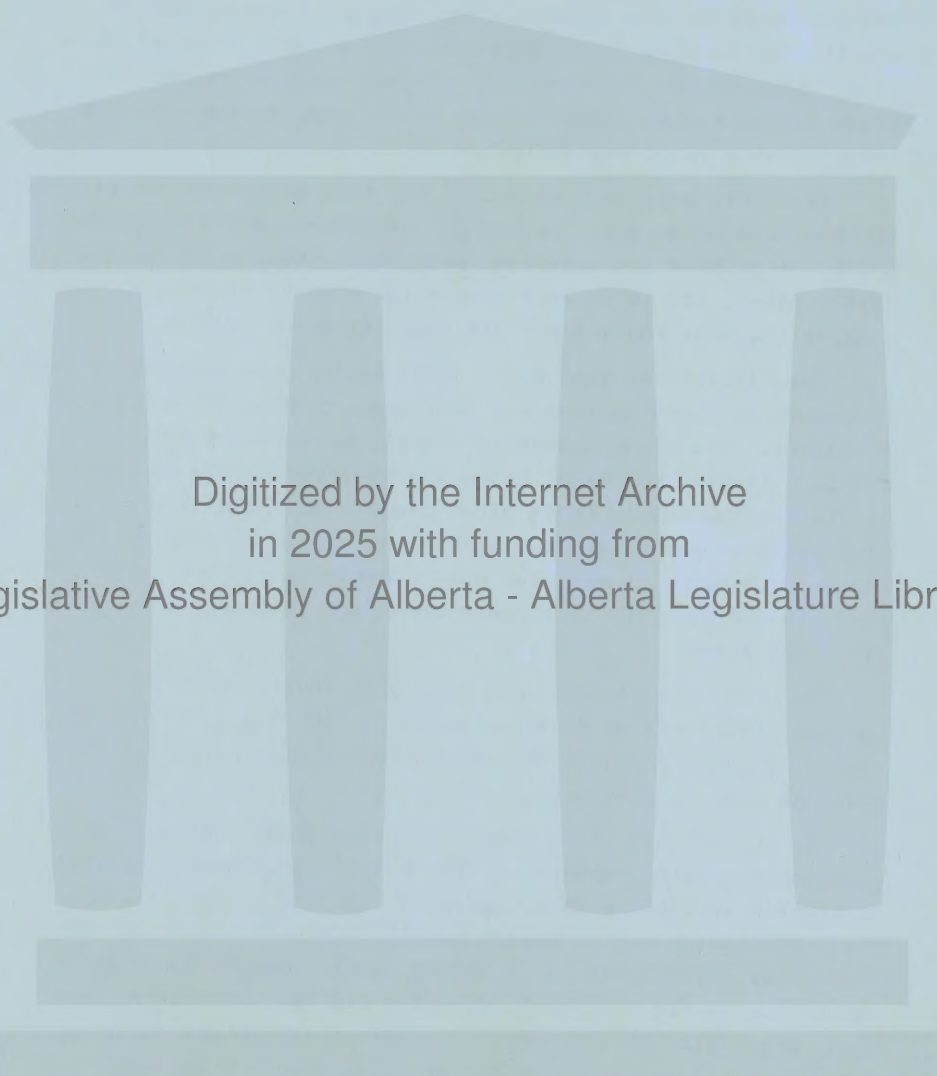
Construction of the Dam has been touted as an assurance to the residents of Peace River of no further flooding, but we submit that this has only contributed to a false sense of security. Many of the flood victims took up residence in the West Peace district since construction of the Dam, acting upon the belief that a flood was unlikely.

We submit that the failure of the then Government of Alberta to study the effects of the Dam on the Alberta section of the River, or to take any effective measures to deal with the changes in the River, are sufficient reason for your Government to compensate the West Peace River citizens for their losses.

The citizens of West Peace River received no warning of the imminence of flooding from any municipal, provincial or federal authority. The flood commenced shortly before noon and on the previous evening the Water Resources Division of the Department of the Environment in Peace River assured both the Mayor of the Town and the head of the E.M.O. that no danger of flooding existed. The Mayor, therefore, only minutes before the flood occurred, assured citizens in a radio broadcast, that there was no cause for alarm.

To those who suggest that insurance should have been carried, there are no Canadian insurers who provide flood insurance. Enquiries regarding such insurance have only indicated that the cost is prohibitive.

We submit that flood damage is properly a need which your government should compensate. The Federal government intervenes to provide assistance when damage exceeds one and one-half million dollars, and we submit such a figure is set since the Provincial governments can properly handle damages up to that level. In an era where public monies are utilized for recreation, attraction of industry, etc., Albertans should contribute a few pennies per capita to the victims of such a natural disaster.



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WEST PEACE RIVER

<u>Name and Property Description</u>	<u>Building Damage Estimated Cost</u>	<u>Site Cleanup Estimated Cost</u>	<u>Personal Effects Estimated Loss</u>	<u>Total Est. Individual Loss</u>
D. Johnson 59-85 A.W., Blk 3, 4 & 5	\$ 995.00			
El 85 AW, Blk 3, 7 & 8	\$2680.00			
Ed Jones 85 AW, Blk 3, 9 & 10	\$4750.00		\$5100.00	\$ 9,850.00
El Green 85 AW, Blk 4, 1 & 2	\$5162.00		\$ 400.00	\$ 5,562.00
Ed Beddo 85 AW, Blk 4, 10	\$2745.00		\$1400.00	\$ 4,145.00
Ed Davang 85 W, Blk 4, 12 & 13 & 14	\$3169.00	\$ 300.00	\$11,710.00	\$15,179.00
Ed Mick 85 AW, Blk 4, 15, 16 & 17	\$11,600.00	\$ 400.00	\$12,508.95	\$24,508.95
Ed Miller, 85 AW, Blk 4, 18, 19 & 20	\$9910.00		\$6516.90	\$16,426.90
Ed Elter 85 AW, Blk 4, 21 & 22	\$5870.00	\$ 200.00	\$9315.90	\$15,385.90
Ed Betty Taylor 85 W., Blk 18 & 3	\$1020.00		\$1063.00	\$ 2,083.00
Ed Hodgkinson 85 AW, Blk 18	\$ 10.00			

TOTALS

\$47,911.00 ✓

\$ 000 00 ✓

WEST PEACE RIVER

PAGE 2

Name and Property Description	Building Damage Estimated Cost	Site Cleanup Estimated Cost	Personal Effects Total Est.	
			Estimated Loss	Individual Loss
West Hodgkinson 5985, Blk 18, 5	\$1,116.00	\$ 50.00	\$2,625.00	\$ 3,791.00
Doerkson 5986 AW, Blk 18 6	Nil			
Anna Doerkson 5985 AW, Blk 18 7	\$2,314.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 950.00	\$ 3,314.00
Jan Peters 5985 AW, Blk 18 8	Nil			
West Surveys Alta. Ltd. 5985 AW, Blk 18 9 & 10	Nil			
De Ambrus AW, Blk 18, & 12	\$3,550.00		\$6,633.50	\$10,183.50
Nicholls 5985 AW, Blk 18 13, 14 & 15	\$3,420.00		\$3,180.73	\$ 6,600.73
Buhler 5985 AW, Blk 18 16, 17, & 18	\$3,750.00		\$7,537.50	\$11,287.50
Ball 5985 AW, Blk 19 1 & 2	\$3,910.00		\$2,022.35	\$ 5,932.35
Mitchell 5985 AW, Blk 19, [REDACTED]	\$4,250.00		\$1,015.00	\$ 5,315.00
Linard Wagner 5985 AW, Blk 19 8, 9 & 10	\$2,900.00		\$2,985.00	\$ 5,885.00
Nil Carried Forward				
Page 1	\$73,121.00	\$1,000.00		

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WEST PEACE RIVER

PAGE 3

<u>Name and Property Description</u>	<u>Building Damage Estimated Cost</u>	<u>Site Cleanup Estimated Cost</u>	<u>Personal Effects Estimated Loss</u>	<u>Total Est Individual</u>
Ward & Irene Lecoursier 5985 AW, Blk 19 lots 14 & 15	\$ 2,120.00			
Margaret Rose Sullivan 5985 AW, Blk 19 lot 1	\$ 2,331.00		1217.00	3548.00
Berta Housing Corp. 5985 AW, Blk 19 lots 27 & 28	\$ 1,050.00			
Ed D. Lizzotte 5985, A.W., Blk 19 lots 29 & 30	\$ 1,070.00		\$ 170.00	\$ 1,240.00
Liam Maennchen 5985 AW, Blk 19 lots 32, 33 & 34	\$ 1,713.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 515.00	\$ 2,278.00
Erin Braun 5985 AW, Blk 19 lot 3	\$ 810.00			
Bill McPhail 3176 AZ, Blk 20 lots 4 & 5		\$ 100.00		
Frank & Judy Schlitz 3176 AZ, Blk 20 lot 10	\$ 3,040.00			
Billie Gordey 3176, AZ, Blk 20 lots 12 & 13	\$ 40.00			
Billie Gordey 3176 AZ, Blk 20 lot 14	\$ 2,530.00		\$5035.00	\$ 7,565.00
Ward L. Iddins 3176 Az, Blk 20 lot 15		\$ 30.00		
Total Carried Forward on Page 2	\$87,825.00	\$1,180.00		\$

Date	Description	Amount	Total
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2100	Jan 1		

WEST PEACE RIVER

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<u>Name and Party Description</u>	<u>Building Damage Estimated Cost</u>	<u>Site Cleanup Estimated Cost</u>	<u>Personal Effects Estimated Loss</u>	<u>Total Est. Individual Loss</u>
ard L. Iddins 3176 AZ, Blk 20 16	\$ 43.00	\$ 25.00		
P 11 3176 AZ, Blk 20 s 17 & 18	\$1235.00	\$ 155.00		
Rily 3176 AZ, Blk 20 s 25 & 26		\$ 100.00		
. Friedel 3176 AZ, Blk 21 s 1, 2, & 3		\$ 100.00		
Hees 3176 AZ, Blk 21 s 7 & 8	\$ 200.00	\$ 50.00		
1 P. Grunewald 3176 AZ, Blk 21	\$ 130.00			
1 P. Grunewald 3176 AZ, Blk 21 s 10 & 11	\$1370.00			
. Ina Gillies 3176 AZ, Blk 21 13	\$ 640.00			
. Lind 3176 AZ, Blk 21 s 14 & 15	\$ 40.00			
orge Green 3176 AZ, Blk 22 7 & 18	\$ 300.00		\$1,795.00	\$ 2,095.00
orge Jelschen 3176 AZ, Blk 22 20	\$ 200.00			

al Carried Forward



WEST PEACE RIVER

PAGE 5

Name and erty Description	Building Damage Estimated Cost	Site Cleanup Estimated Cost	Personal Effects Estimated Loss	Total Est. Individual Los
h T. Gillies 5985 AW, Blk 22 23	\$ 220.00			
h Gillies 5985 AW, Blk 22 24	\$ 30.00			
ph Brugger 5985 AW, Blk 22 s 29 & 30	\$ 275.00			
ph Brugger 5985 AW, Blk 22 s 31, 32 & 33	\$3358.00		\$1,083.75 (Renter - R. Mitchell) \$ 4,441.75	
resa Mantyka 5985 AW, Blk 23 1	\$3375.00	\$ 50.00	\$5,734.00	\$ 9,159.00
Di Getzel 5985 AW, Blk 23 s 2 & 3	\$4350.00	\$ 50.00	\$2,505.00 (D.A. Rutherford- Renter) \$ 6,905.00	
eph A. Allain nter - Helen Butz) 5985 AW, Blk 23 4	\$3580.00	\$ 50.00	\$3,619.00 (H. Butz) \$ 7,249.00	
eph A. Allain 5985 AW, Blk 23 5		\$ 50.00		
llip Lorrain 5985 AW, Blk 23 s 6 & 7	\$3260.00	\$ 50.00	\$245.00	\$3555.00
1 Schell 5985 AW, Blk 23 8	\$3280.00	\$ 50.00	\$4,266.83	\$ 7,596.83
1 Schell 5985 AW, Blk 23 s 9 & 10	\$4310.00	\$ 50.00		

WEST PEACE RIVER

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Name and Property Description	Building Damage Estimated Cost	Site Cleanup Estimated Cost	Personal Effects Estimated Loss	Total Est. Individual Loss
Lotte Oetzel 1985 AW, Blk 23, 11		\$ 50.00		
Lotte Oetzel 1985 AW, Blk 23 12		\$ 50.60		
Lotte Oetzel 1985 AW, Blk 23, 13		\$ 50.00		
Lotte Oetzel 1985 AW, Blk 23 14 & 15	\$ 440.00	\$ 50.00		
Lotte Oetzel 1985 AW, Blk 23 16	\$ 4340.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 3,840.18	\$ 8,230.18
Landelin 1985 AZ, Blk 27	\$ 45.00			
Don E. Lizotte 176 AZ, Blk 28 1 & 2	\$ 2580.00		\$10,422.00	\$13,002.00
Don E. Lizotte 176 AZ, Blk 28 3 & 4		\$ 100.00		
Don E. Lizotte 176 AZ, Blk. 28 5 & 6	\$ 260.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 2,774.50 (L.C. Brown - Renter)	\$ 3,059.50
Don A. Cole 176 AZ, Blk 28 7 & 8	\$ 540.00		\$ 315.00	\$ 855.00
Don E. Plummer 176 AZ, Blk 28 9, 10 & 11	\$ 350.00			

WEST PEACE RIVER

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<u>Name and Property Description</u>	<u>Building Damage Estimated Cost</u>	<u>Site Cleanup Estimated Cost</u>	<u>Personal Effects Estimated Loss</u>	<u>Total Est. Individual Ls</u>
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. E. Yates
5985 AW, Blk 29
s 3 & 4

\$ 100.00

\$ 98.45

\$ 198.45

. Yates
5985 AW, Blk 29
s 5 & 6

\$ 25.00

Deisting
5985 AW, Blk 29,
s 7, 8, & 9

\$ 25.00

y B. Robertson
5985 AW, Blk 29
s 17 & 18

\$ 60.00

\$ 25.00

. Pailer
5985 AW, Blk 29
s 19 & 20

\$ 75.00

\$ 25.00

TOTALS

\$126,811.00

\$ 2,435.00

~~\$117,204.04~~~~117,204.04~~
118,836.04

